

**I CLAIM:**

5. 1. In a cellular telephone including a microphone, a modulator, an antenna, and an RF amplifier, the device serving to receive audio and transmit an RF signal conveying audio modulation, an improvement comprising a steganographic encoder for hiding plural bits of auxiliary data within the audio modulation of said RF signal.
10. 2. The device of claim 1 in which said plural bits comprise data used to discourage piracy of cellular telephony service.
15. 3. The device of claim 1 in which said plural bits comprise data identifying the cellular telephone.
20. 4. A method of operating a cellular telephone, said telephone including a microphone coupled to a transmitter, and a receiver coupled to a transducer, the telephone serving to transmit a wireless signal modulated with a voice signal using an antenna, the method characterized by altering the voice signal to steganographically embed a multi-symbol auxiliary data string therein, wherein transmission of the wireless voice signal also conveys the auxiliary data string hidden therein.
25. 5. In a battery-powered wireless reception device sized for fitting in a user's pocket or purse, the device including an RF amplifier, an antenna, a demodulator, and a speaker, the device serving to receive RF transmissions and output an audio signal conveyed thereby, an improvement comprising a steganographic decoder for discerning multi-symbol auxiliary data conveyed as slight alterations to said audio signal.

6. The device of claim 5 that further includes a processor to which data output by the steganographic decoder is provided.

5 7. In a method of operating a battery-powered wireless reception device sized for fitting in a user's pocket or purse, the device including an RF amplifier, a demodulator, an antenna, and a speaker, the device serving to receive RF transmissions and output an audio signal conveyed thereby, an improvement comprising steganographically decoding multi-symbol auxiliary data from said audio signal, and controlling some aspect of the device in accordance therewith.